

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CU-02 SCCT-01 NIC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SY-04 SCS-03 SCA-01

A-01 OPR-01 AID-05 /076 W
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P 131340Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2208

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L THESSALONIKI 012

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, SEDU, GR

SUBJECT: CONTINUING TROUBLES AT THESSALONIKI MEDICAL SCHOOL

REF: THESSALONIKI 010

1. REACTING TO STUDENT THREAT TO OCCUPY MEDICAL SCHOOL BUILDING (REF), UNIV RECTOR MOLYIOTIS DECIDED JAN 11 TO CLOSE MED SCHOOL FOR 5 DAYS EFFECTIVE JAN 13. DURING THIS PERIOD, EDUCATION MINISTRY WILL REVIEW STUDENT DEMANDS, PARTICULARLY REGARDING CONTINUED TENURE OF CONTROVERSIAL US PROFESSOR CHRISTOFORIDES (REF) WHO ALSO HOLDS CHAIR AT OHIO STATE. MINED UNDER SEC EVRYENIS, WHO ARRIVED THESSALONIKI JAN 13, IS NOW MEETING WITH STUDENTS AND FACULTY TO WORK OUT SOLUTION. MINED ZEPPUS ALSO ISSUED STATEMENT JAN 12 PLEDGING REVIEW OF DISPUTE.

2. AS OF EARLY JAN 13, DISSIDENT STUDENTS APPEAR TO BE IN CONTROL OF BASEMENT AREA OF MED SCHOOL. ALL CLASSES AND LABS ALSO CLOSED. SIGNS AROUND BUILDING CALL FOR IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF CHRISTOFORIDES AND ALSO PROF VASSILOPOULOS OF VETERINARY SCHOOL, WHO IS SON-IN-LAW OF EX-GENERAL AND GOG REP ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUS DURING JUNTA ERA, ASTERIOS POLY-
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ZOPOULOS. STUDENT MEETINGS ALSO IN PROGRESS IN ALL AUDI-

TORIUMS. NO POLICE EVIDENT ON CAMPUS.

3. AFTERNOON "THESSALONIKI" OF JAN 13 REPORTS THAT MOVEMENT TO OUST CHRISTOFORIDES GAINING MOMENTUM AND MED STUDENTS STILL PLANNING TO TAKE OVER BUILDING. ACCORDING TO REPORT, STUDENT "GUARDS" POSTED OUTSIDE LABORATORIES TO PREVENT "FASCIST PROVOCATEURS" FROM DESTROYING PROPERTY TO PLACE BLAME ON STUDENTS. (ACCORDING TO PRESS, RIGHTIST STUDENT ORGANIZATION "NEA TAKSIS" ACTIVE OVER WEEKEND PAINTING SLOGANS AND REPORTEDLY PLANTING BOMB AT LOCAL RESTAURANT. WHILE SOME STUDENTS APPARENTLY SPENT NIGHT OF JAN 12-13 IN BUILDING, PREPARATIONS UNDER WAY FOR MORE EXTENSIVE OCCUPATION. MED SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE CALLED GENERAL RALLY AND PARADE FOR 1500 JAN 13 PRELIMINARY TO "CAPTURE" OF SCHOOL. MAPER ALSO REFERS TO ALLEGED SPECIFIC PREPARATIONS INCLUDING MEDICAL SUPPLIES, STUDENT RADIO TN, AND FOOD SUPPLIES.

4. COMMENT: WHILE MED STUDENTS APPEALING TO COLLEAGUES IN OTHER FACULTIES, LOCAL DISRUPTIONS HAVE SO FAR BEEN CONFINED TO MED SCHOOL ISSUE. STUDENTS OF LAW, AGRICULTURE, VETERINARY SCIENCE, DENTISTRY, AND PHILOSOPHY ARE, HOWEVER, PROCLAIMING BOYCOTT OF CLASSES TO SHOW SOLIDARITY.
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